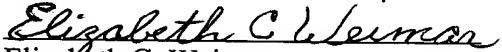


REMARKS

Applicants respectfully submit that no prohibited new matter has been introduced by this Preliminary Amendment and that claims 15 to 30 are drawn to the same invention as claims 1-14 of International Application PCT/FR99/02763. The changes to the claims represent changes in formalities so as to bring the claims into compliance with the rules of practice in the United States, such as: multiply dependent claims may not depend from multiply dependent claims (see original claims 5, 6 and 10), "use" claims are not a recognized category of invention (see original claims 1 to 12); and to provide established claim terminology to describe the intended scope of the claims, i.e. incorporation of the term "comprising" (see all of the original claims). These changes do not narrow the claimed subject matter presented and examined in the corresponding International Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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